UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/687,484	10/13/2000	Donald C. Jackson	0055-0014	9376

58563 7590 01/19/2007	EXAMINER
HARRITY SNYDER, L.L.P. 11350 RANDOM HILLS ROAD SUITE 600 FAIRFAX, VA 22030	PHAN, MAN U

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2616	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/19/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 10/06)

SY

		Application No.	Applicant(s)
		09/687,484	JACKSON ET AL.
Office Action Summary		Examiner	Art Unit
		Man Phan	2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>20 November 2006</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-8,16-22 and 25-68* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) *42-66* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) *36-41* is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-8,16-19,22,27-31 and 34-41* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *20,21,25,26,32 and 33* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some *   c)☐ None of:

        1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

Response to Amendment and Argument

1.   This communication is in response to applicant's 11/20/2006 communications in the

application of Jackson et al. for a "Method and apparatus for localized voice over internet

protocol usage" filed 10/13/2000. This application claims benefit from Provisional Application

60/219,911 dated 07/21/2000. This application is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE)

under C.F.R. 1.114 filed on June 13, 2005. The proposed amendments to the claims and remark

filed 05/30/2006 have been entered and made of record.   Claims 9-15, 23-24 have been canceled

per Applicant's requested, claims 1, 6, 19-22, 25-26, 29, 33, 36-41 have been amended, and

claims 67-68 have been added. Claims 1-8, 16-22, 25-68 are pending in the application.

Remarks

2.   Applicant's amendment to the pending claims have been considered but are moot in view

of the new ground(s) of rejection, and will be examined as discussed below. Furthermore, in the

telephone interview on October 23, 2006, it was agreed that the 35 USC 112 first paragraph

rejection was overcome. The Examiner withdraws the Final rejections mailed 07/25/2006 , and

the newly added limitations will be discussed as follows.

3.   Applicant's amendment and argument to the rejected claims are insufficient to

distinguish the claimed invention from the cited prior arts or overcome the rejection of said

claims under 35 U.S.C. 103 as discussed below. Applicant's argument with respect to the

pending claims have been fully considered, but they are not persuasive for at least the following

reasons.

4. Applicant's argument with respect to the restriction by original presentation (page 19) that

"not one of the claims of group I includes features related to a switching network that has a

switch which establishes a path between a source and destination, route information...". The

Applicant's attention is directed to Fig. 3 (specification, page 11 plus) that best described the

claimed limitations of group I, in which the telephone gateway 107 is supported by media

gateway 302 which is connected to the PSTN via a digital switch (not shown), or a Voice over

Internet Protocol (VoIP) telephone that is connected to the PSTN via a data network. As shown

in Fig. 3, a VOIP gateway (VOIP GW) for performing protocol conversion is installed at a

border between the IP network and the existing circuit switch network. When both or one of

terminals for the call is a terminal compatible with the circuit switch network (for example, a

PSTN-compatible telephone), protocol conversion between the circuit switch network and the IP

network is performed at the VOIP gateway (for example, conversion between an analog voice

signal and an IP voice packet). Typically, the VoIP gateway includes a subscriber line

connector, and a switch for connecting between subscribers who are connected through lines

based on address associated with the information data. To facilitate call routing in such VoIP

environments, originating and terminating switches (not shown) can be connected to PSTN/IP

gateways that belong to both the IP network and the PSTN. Based on the called number or other

signaling indicator, the switches route certain calls through the IP gateways instead of the PSTN.

It is widely known in the art that Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) telephony is commonly used to

establish the call set-up process. SIP is the predominant IETF standard and it is the chosen

signaling protocol for upcoming 3GPP and 3GPP2 all-IP networks. Applicant further alleged

that not one of the group II includes the features related to a *"device for interconnecting two or*

more networks at a media access level of a data link layer". However, independent claims 42,

54 and 66-67 (group II) drawn to the bridge or gateway between networks (PSTN and IP)

utilizing application server as the media access level for establishing a session with the network

interface (see also Fig. 3 of the present application, specification, page 11 plus).

Based on the analyzing as above, the inventions are distinct, each from the other because

of the following reasons: Inventions I and II are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable

together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are

shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention II which has separate utility such as

an application server as the media access level for establishing a session with the network

interface, which does not include the particular listed of the invention I, such as method for

automated interaction with users participating in the calls using network server in

communication with the IP network medium. See MPEP ' 806.05(d). Because these inventions

are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by

their different classification, and the search required for Group I is not required for Group II,

restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant's argument with respect to the rejected claims 1, 6, 22, 29 (pages 21-24) that

the cited reference does not show or suggest *"where the call is transmitted as a data stream of*

uncompressed data from the gateway to the network server" and *"located in close physical*

proximity to the PSTN-to-IP gateway" and *"to allow or disallow the calls based on a telephone*

number associated with the calls". However, as admitted by the prior art shown in Figs. 1 & 2,

the essentially uncompressed transmission of the data packets from the communication terminal

device to the data compression device can usually be ignored or at least accepted.   In real-time

communication between a communication terminal device of a first packet-oriented

communication network and a second packet-oriented communication network, data packets

which are to be transmitted are transmitted from the communication terminal device in

essentially uncompressed form via the first communication network to a data compression

device, in order to be compressed before being forwarded into the second communication

network. In this real-time voice connection, a voice data stream which is to be transmitted is

divided up by the communication terminal device KE among Internet-Protocol-based data

packets DP which are transmitted via the local area network LAN to the gateway GW. The

voice data stream transmitted within the data packets DP essentially comprises sampling values,

preferably coded in accordance with ITU-T Recommendation G.711, of voice signals which are

to be transmitted during the real-time voice connection. The sampling values are transmitted

within the data packets DP in uncompressed form from the communication terminal device KE

via the local area network LAN to the gateway GW. No computing-intensive compression of the

voice data is therefore carried out in the communication terminal device KE.

In response to Applicant's argument that the reference does not teach or reasonably

suggest the functionality upon which the Examiner relies for the rejection. The Examiner first

emphasizes for the record that the claims employ a broader in scope than the Applicant's

disclosure in all aspects. In addition, the Applicant has not argued any narrower interpretation of

the claim limitations, nor amended the claims significantly enough to construe a narrower

meaning to the limitations. Since the claims breadth allows multiple interpretations and

meanings, which are broader than Applicant's disclosure, the Examiner is <u>required</u> to interpret

the claim limitations in terms of their broadest reasonable interpretations while determining

patentability of the disclosed invention. <u>See</u> MPEP 2111. In other words, the claims <u>must</u> be

given their broadest reasonable interpretation consistent with the specification and the

interpretation that those skilled in the art would reach. See *In re Hyatt*, 211 F.3d 1367, 1372, 54

USPQ2d 1664, 1667 (Fed. Cir. 2000), *In re Cortright*, 165 F.3d 1353, 1359, 49 USPQ2d 1464,

1468 (Fed. Cir. 1999), and *In re American Academy of Science Tech Center*, 2004 WL 1067528

(Fed. Cir. May 13, 2004). Any term that is not clearly defined in the specification <u>must</u> be given

its plain meaning as understood by one of ordinary skill in the art. See MPEP 2111.01. See also

In re Zletz, 893 F.2d 319, 321, 13 USPQ2d 1320, 1322 (Fed. Cir. 1989), *Sunrace Roots Enter.*

Co. v. SRAM Corp., 336 F.3d 1298, 1302, 67 USPQ2d 1438, 1441 (Fed. Cir. 2003), *Brookhill-*

Wilk 1, LLC v. Intuitive Surgical, Inc., 334 F.3d 1294, 1298 67 USPQ2d 1132, 1136 (Fed. Cir.

2003). The interpretation of the claims by their broadest reasonable interpretation reduces the

possibility that, once the claims are issued, the claims are interpreted more broadly than justified.

See *In re Prater*, 415 F.2d 1393, 1404-05, 162 USPQ 541, 550-551 (CCPA 1969). Also,

limitations appearing in the specification but not recited in the claim are not read into the claim.

See *In re Van Geuns, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993)*.

Therefore, the failure to significantly narrow definition or scope of the claims and supply

arguments commensurate in scope with the claims implies the Applicant intends broad

interpretation be given to the claims. The Examiner has interpreted the claims in parallel to the

Applicant in the response and reiterates the need for the Applicant to distinctly define the

claimed invention. The Examiner maintains that the references cited and applied in the last

office actions for the rejection of the claims are maintained in this office action.

Election by Original Presentation

5.   Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

I.   Claims 1-41 drawn to the Combined circuit switching and packet switching: Subject

       matter wherein the switching network has both (a) a switch which establishes a path

       between a source and destination with the path being held for the duration of the

       communication, and (b) a switch which routes information based on an address

       associated with the information data in a channel which is only occupied for a duration of

       the time required to transmit the information data and the associated address. Classified

       in **class 370, subclass 352.**

II.   Claims 42-66 drawn to the Bridge or gateway between networks: Subject matter having a

       device for interconnecting two or more networks at a media-access level of a data-link

       layer. Having a plurality of nodes performing distributed switching: Subject matter

       having a switching architecture in which a plurality of switch nodes are provided such

       that the switching function is spread out over a geographical area, wherein information

       data to be switched is organized with one or more bytes preceded by an identification

       information indicative of a source or destination station. Classified in **class 370,**

       subclass 401.

6.   Newly submitted claims 42-66 directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from

the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: Inventions I and II are related as

subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are

distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention

II which has separate utility such as an application server as the media access level for

establishing a session with the network interface, which does not include the particular listed of

the invention I, such as method for automated interaction with users participating in the calls

using network server in communication with the IP network medium. See MPEP ' 806.05(d).

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate

status in the art as shown by their different classification, and the search required for Group I is

not required for Group II, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented

invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution

on the merits. Accordingly, claims 42-66 withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a

non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the

inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the

currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the

application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR

1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(I).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC ' 103

7.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness

rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth

in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior

art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made

to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be

negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

8.   This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims

under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was

commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to

the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor

and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was

made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35

U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

9.   Claims 1, 6, 16-19, 22, 27-31, 34-35 and 67-68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as

being unpatentable over Aldous et al. (US#6,654,722) in view of Subramaniam et al.

(US#6,070,187).

With respect to claims 1, 6, 22, 29 and 67-68, Aldous et al. disclose in Figs. 1 & 2 block

diagrams illustrated a VoIP based speech system for servicing a call received over a PSTN

comprising: a PSTN-to-IP gateway 3 for connecting to the PSTN 2; an IP network medium 4

connected to the gateway; and a network server 7 in communication with the IP network medium

4 for automated interaction with a user 1 participating in the call (Col. 5, lines 20 plus). Aldous

further teaches in Fig. 2 illustrated more detail of the VoIP telephony gateway server 3, in which

the VoIP gatekeeper 14 (*proxy server functionality*) can perform load balancing in order to

ensure the high availability of VoIP enabled speech servers 5 (*plurality of network servers*) able

to receive the voice call (Col. 5, line 59 to Col. 6, line 18).

Aldous et al. does not disclose expressly the configuration server and call discrimination

in forwarding the packet switched call. However, Aldous teaches a VoIP-based speech system,

in which a VoIP telephony gateway server; at least one speech server, each speech server

containing a VoIP-enabled speech application; a VoIP-compliant call control interface between

the VoIP telephony gateway server and the speech server; and, a VoIP communications path

between the VoIP telephony gateway-server and the speech application in the at least one speech

server (*providing automated dynamic management of the network server*). In the VoIP-based

speech system, the VoIP telephony gateway server and the speech application can establish the

VoIP communicat- ions path through the VoIP-compliant call control interface (see Fig. 2; Col.

2, lines 35 plus). In the same field of endeavor, Submaramaniam et al. (US#6,070,187)

discloses a method and apparatus that allows a network node to be automatically configured with

an IP address and a default gateway address to be configured as its own gateway. The

configuration agent resides on a network device (such as a switch or bridge) that is coupled to

two network segments, with one network segments including a node to be configured and

another network segment including a server capable of automatically providing configuration

parameters. The configuration agent acts as a snoopy agent. Messages from the configuration

server to the node to be configured are "snooped" to discover messages containing an IP address

and a default gateway address. Such messages are altered to copy the IP addresses offered to the

nodes seeking configuration to the default gateway addresses, and the messages are sent on their

way, thereby causing nodes seeking to be configured to be configured as their own default

gateway. In some configurations, messages from the node to be configured to the configuration

server are altered to ensure that messages from the configuration server to the node seeking to be

configured are broadcast messages (See Figs. 3, 6; Col. 6, lines 25 plus).

Although Aldous et al. and Subbramaniam do not specifically refer to the *blasting*

process in providing automated dynamic management of the network server. This *blasting*

process is well known in the art and are widely known in the communication management

functions for providing user notification and connectivity to handle the access to the system

resources. As shown in Fig. 2, Aldous et al. teaches a block diagram illustrated the architecture

for the VoIP telephony gateway server of Fig. 1, in which advance call management module 15

is provided to implement (alone or in conjunction with other modules) management functions

required to permit use of the system by content providers and subscribers, as well as process the

blasts transmitted through the system. For example, server management module 15 is

programmed to permit creation, deletion, distribution, tracking, and logging of data pertinent to

blasts processed by server 14 (Col. 6, lines 20 plus).

Regarding claims 16-19, 27-28 and 30-31, 34, 35, Subbramaniam further teach in Figs. 7-

10 the flow charts illustrated how the DHCP proxy agent of Fig. 6 processes packets in VoIP

communications. At block 138, a packet is received. Control then passes to decision block 140,

which determines whether the packet is a DHCPDISCOVER, DHCPREQUEST, DHCPOFFER,

DHCPACK, or DHCPNAK packet specifying a network node to be configured as its own

gateway. Similar to DHCP snoopy agent 102 as described above, proxy agent 120 can also be

configured to maintain a table of MAC addresses identifying network nodes that are to be

"helped". If the packet is not one of these packets, or the node is not configured to be "helped",

the "NO" branch is taken to block 142, where the packet is transmitted. Control then passes back

to block 138 to wait for the next packet to be received. Note that DHCP proxy agent 130 is

configured to receive all broadcast packets transmitted in the configuration dialogue. In addition,

if any of the packets are from the client are unicast, agent 130 will also receive those packets

since the client seeking to be configured will believe that agent 130 is its DHCP server (Col. 12,

lines 62 plus).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the need for effectively and efficiently using

VoIP enabled speech server for communicating information, and would have applied

Subramaniam's novel use of the configuration server in VoIP into Aldous's teaching of the VoIP

enabled speech server. Therefore, It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the

art at the time of the invention was made to apply Subramaniam's method and apparatus for

configurating a network node to be its own gateway into Aldous's voice over IP protocol based

speech system with the motivation being to provide a method and system for supporting voice

activated services over a telephone interface.

10.   Claims 2-5, 7-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aldous et

al. (US#6,654,722) in view Subramaniam et al. (US#6,070,187) as applied to the claims above,

and further in view of of Brown et al. (US#6,604,075).

        With respect to claim 2, Aldous and Subramaniam disclose the claimed limitations as

discussed in the paragraph 9 above.   In the same field of the endeavor Brown et al.

(US#6,604,075) discloses a novel method and system for use in communicating information in

VoIP using a web-based voice dialog interface, according to the essential features of the claims.

Brown provides an Interactive Voice Response (IVR) platform which includes a speech

synthesizer, a grammar generator and a speech recognizer. The speech synthesizer generates

speech, which characterizes the structure and content of a web page retrieved over the network.

The speech is delivered to a user via a telephone or other type of audio interface device. The

grammar generator utilizes textual information parsed from the retrieved web page to produce a

grammar. The grammar is then supplied to the speech recognizer and used to interpret voice

commands generated by the user. The grammar may also be utilized by the speech synthesizer to

create phonetic information, such that similar phonemes are used in both the speech recognizer

and the speech synthesizer (Col. 2, lines 36 plus).

        With respect to claims 3-5 and 7-8, Aldous teaches a method for coupling a speech

application to a telephony gateway server in a VoIP network. Notably, as shown in Fig. 1 of the

preferred embodiment, the VoIP Enabled Speech Server 5 can accept voice commands

originating in the telephone device 1 for retrieving Web content from a Web server 7 in a data

communications network 6. Specifically, the Web content 8 can be a VoiceXML document 8. In

response, the VoIP Enabled Speech Server 5 can retrieve the VoiceXML document 8 from the

Web server 7 and can synthesize audio data according to instructions contained in the

VoiceXML document 8. Subsequently, the synthesized audio data can be transported across the

VoIP network 4 to the VoIP telephony gateway server 3 and ultimately to the telephone device 1

(Col. 5, lines 47 plus). Aldous further teaches several well-known protocols implement the

VoIP protocol specification including H.323, Session Initialization Protocol ("SIP") and Master

Gateway Control Protocol ("MGCP"), upon which voice traffic can be transmitted across IP

networks. In a VoIP network, analog speech signals received from an analog speech audio

source, for example a PSTN or a microphone, are digitized, compressed and translated into IP

packets for transmission over an IP network (Col. 1, lines 34-45).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the need for effectively and efficiently using

VoIP enabled speech server for communicating information, and would have applied Brown's

teaching of the speech synthesizer, a grammar generator and a speech recognizer in VoIP into

Subramaniam's novel use of the configuration server in VoIP and Aldous's teaching of the VoIP

enabled speech server. Therefore, It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the

art at the time of the invention was made to apply Brown's web-based voice dialog interface into

Subramaniam's method and apparatus for configuring a network node to be its own gateway and

Aldous's voice over IP protocol based speech system with the motivation being to provide a

method and system for supporting voice activated services over a telephone interface.

Allowable Subject Matter

11.   Claims 36-41 are allowable

Claims 20-21, 25-26 and 32-33 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base

claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations

of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable

subject matter: The closest prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest wherein the if the

proxy server detects that a number of calls exceeds a predetermined threshold, then the proxy

server follows at least one predetermined call routing rule provided by the configuration server,

as specifically recited in the claims 20, 25, 32 and 36-41.

Conclusion

12.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this

Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP '

706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR

1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however,

will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this
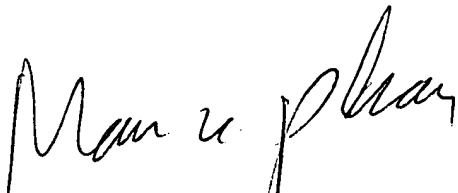
final action.

13.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Man U. Phan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3149. The

examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 6:00 am to 3:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Wellington Chin, can be reached on (571) 272-3134. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Mphan

01/16/2007.

MAN U. PHAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER